

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3576
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
SENILE DEMENTIA ALZHEIMER
VIJAY GOEL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that Senile Dementia Alzheimer (SDAT) disease, which destroys memory brain cells is on the increase;
- (b) is there is no cure of this disease till date; and
- (c) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government to detect, diagnose and bring awareness among the people about the symptoms of this disease?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) Senile Dementia Alzheimer disease constitutes a public health problem in countries with very high life expectancy. There is no specific treatment. The treatment is aimed at relief of symptoms by medication such as anti-psychotics, tranquillisers and cholinergic stimulators as well as behavioural modification and family counselling on caring of such people. While no specific awareness programmes have been launched for Alzheimer's disease, treatment for Alzheimer's disease is provided in tertiary hospitals both in the Government and private sector.